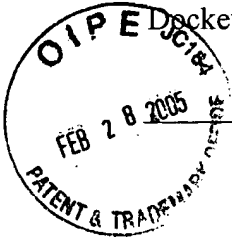


JPW



Docket No.: TRIAGE.012A

February 25, 2005

Page 1 of 1

Please Direct All Correspondence to Customer Number **20995**

**AMENDMENT / RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL**

Applicant : Bruce E. Stevens et al.  
 App. No : 10/756,892  
 Filed : January 14, 2004  
 For : LOCKING PLATE FOR BONE ANCHORS  
 Examiner : David Owen Reip  
 Art Unit : 3731

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

February 25, 2005

(Date)

*Rabinder N. Narula*

Rabinder N. Narula, Reg. No. 53,371

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified application are the following enclosures:

- (X) Response to Restriction Requirement in 1 page.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.
- (X) Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

*Rabinder N. Narula*

Rabinder N. Narula  
 Registration No. 53,371  
 Attorney of Record  
 Customer No. 20,995  
 (949) 760-0404



TRIAGE.012A

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Bruce E. Stevens et al.  
Appl. No. : 10/756,892  
Filed : January 14, 2004  
For : LOCKING PLATE FOR BONE  
ANCHORS  
Examiner : David Owen Reip  
Group Art Unit : 3731

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects Group I (Claims 1-39) for prosecution in the present application. With respect to the restriction between species, Applicant elects the claims corresponding to (i) species of fixation pin represented in Figure 10 (Species 1), (ii) the species of "first retention structure" as recited in Claim 5 (Species "annular structure") and (iii) the species of plate represented in Figure 6 (Species B) without the cap shown in Figure 8. Applicant submits that Claims 1-2, 4-5, 9, 12-15, 21-22, 24-25, 28 and 31-34 are readable on the elected species. The present election is being made without traverse.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON &amp; BEAR, LLP

Dated: 2-25-05By: 

Rabinder N. Narula  
Registration No. 53,371  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20,995